

## Exotic Wireworm and Click Beetle Survey

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### Exotic Wireworm

The wireworm is the larva of the click beetle, and is the life stage that causes damage to crops. Wireworms gnaw at the stems a few centimeters above ground level and cause breakage; they also attack seeds and roots, and will bore holes into tubers. Wireworms are yellow to brown with dark heads and hard, smooth bodies. There are 3 leg segments behind the head and the body tapers at the end. In dry and cold weather, larvae migrate deep into the soil. It can take up to 3 years for the larvae to pupate and become a click beetle.



### Click Beetle

The click beetle is the adult form of the exotic wireworm. This insect does *not* cause damage to any crops, but their presence in a field will indicate the existence of a local wireworm population. Click beetles are slender and have elongated bodies. When turned upside-down, the beetles right themselves by arching their back and snapping the body quickly, popping the beetle into the air and making a clicking sound. Click beetles are usually black, brown or gray.

#### Target Click Beetle Species:

*Agriotes lineatus*  
*Agriotes obscurus*  
*Agriotes sputator*



### Host Plants

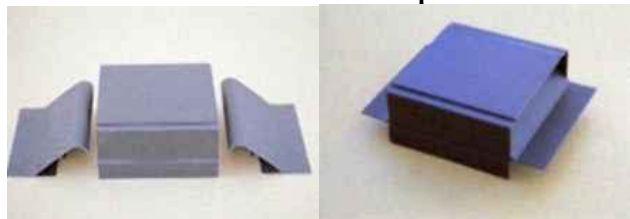
#### Exotic Wireworms are known to attack:

|        |                          |          |
|--------|--------------------------|----------|
| Corn   | Sunflower                | Cucumber |
| Fir    | Grapes                   | Tomato   |
| Oak    | Lettuce                  | Beans    |
| Pine   | Onion                    | Potato   |
| Spruce | Carrots                  | Peaches  |
| Turnip | Small Grains and Grasses |          |
|        | Sod and Turf Grasses     |          |

#### Host plants can be rotated with these crops, which wireworms DO NOT attack:

|         |           |      |         |
|---------|-----------|------|---------|
| Alfalfa | Buckwheat | Peas | Clovers |
|---------|-----------|------|---------|

### Vernon Beetle Trap



The Vernon Beetle trap uses pheromones to attract the adult click beetle up a short ramp and into the box, where it falls in and cannot escape. Larger insects cannot enter through the narrow opening. Dr. Bob Vernon, researcher for Pacific Agri-Food Research Center (Canada), designed the trap and click beetle pheromones.